

Archie  
ADVENTURE  
SERIES



# SONIC & KNUCKLES



\$2.00



SPINBALL







# SONIC & KNUCKLES™

AND IN THIS ISSUE: *Part One*

## "PANIC IN THE SKY!"

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**SPECIAL THANKS to Jennifer Hunn at Sega**






**A** land once renowned for its great beauty, the planet **Mobius** is well on its way to becoming a scarred, lifeless battlefield, thanks to the relentless acts of scientific terrorism unleashed by the evil **Techno-Tyrant, Dr. Ivo Robotnik**.

In this once-serene plane, only one great natural wonder remains untouched by this utter devastation: the mysterious **Floating Island**. A mighty continent, the Island is held aloft by the energy of a rare and powerful gem known as a **Chaos Emerald**. A world unto itself with its origins lost to antiquity, this sprawling multi-zoned land mass drifts lazily above the face of Mobius, existing in harmony, yet forever apart.

As enigmatic as the Floating Island is its guardian, **Knuckles The Echidna**. Last of an ancient, noble race, his charge is to preserve the peace, and protect the Island's boundaries from the encroachment and harsh realities of the "outside world" -- a task handed down generation unto generation.

Recently host to a great battle between Dr. Robotnik and the spearhead of **Knothole Village's** resistance, **Sonic The Hedgehog**, the Floating Island again stands alone as a safe haven from the war that rages unchecked, below.

But for how long?





PROLOGUE:

THE WESTERN COAST OF  
THE GREAT CONTINENT.

12:17 PM

THOUGH PRONE TO EARTH-  
QUAKES, MUDSLIDES, FIRES  
AND FLOODS...

...IT REMAINS ONE OF THE FEW  
REGIONS ON MOBIUS TO REMAIN  
UNSCARRED BY CONFLICT!

HERE, THE NATIVES CAN FROLIC  
AND ROMP WITHOUT CARE!

OR AT LEAST  
THEY COULD...

WYAP



...UNTIL TODAY!

# SONIC & KNUCKLES™

IN

## PANIC IN THE SKY!

PART I







SOUND THE  
ALARM!

IT'S A  
CONTINENT!

A FLOATING  
CONTINENT!



...THE LAND MASS WAS SIGHTED SEVERAL HOURS AGO, AS IT CROSSED OVER INTO OUR AIR SPACE!

WITNESSES CLAIMED THE SKY WAS FALLING-- THOUGH FROM WHAT I CAN TELL...

...EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE IS TRUE!

1:52 PM

AMAZING!

ANY IDEA WHAT'S KEEPING IT ALOFT, ROTOR?

I COULDN'T TELL YOU, PRINCESS!

BUT I DO KNOW THIS...

ACCORDING TO MY READINGS...

...IT'S HEADED STRAIGHT FOR KNOTHOLE VILLAGE!

BEACH

ISLAND

TAP  
TAP

KNOTHOLE VILLAGE

HI, GANG!  
DID WE MISS ANYTHING?

PLENTY!

AND YOU WOULDN'T HAVE IF YOU HAD THE COMMON COURTESY TO--

HOLY--!

IT'S THE FLOATING ISLAND!





"FLOATING ISLAND"?  
MIND FILLING US IN,  
GENIUS?

WHAT DO  
YOU TWO KNOW  
THAT THE REST  
OF US DON'T?

PLENTY!



TAILS AND I  
FIRST CAME ACROSS  
THAT HUNK OF AIR-  
BORN ROCK A FEW  
MONTHS BACK!

WE  
CRASH-  
LANDER...



...AND RAN AFOWL OF KNUCKLES  
THE ECHIDNA--GUARDIAN OF  
THE LOCAL CHAOS EMERALD!

THAT'S  
WHAT KEEPS  
THE ISLAND  
AFLOAT!



TO PUT IT MILDLY, HE  
TOOK AN IMMEDIATE  
AND PROFOUND DISLIKE  
TO US!

BUT--  
AFTER WE'D  
HASHED THINGS  
OUT A  
BIT...



...WE PARTED  
ON FRIENDLY  
TERMS!\*

GNAX!

\*REFER TO THE NOW CLASSIC  
SONIC #13, "THIS ISLAND HEDGE-  
HOG," FOR THE FULL STORY--Scott



HMMM...

WHOSE SIDE  
IS THIS GUY  
REALLY ON?

THAT'S--HARD  
TO SAY, SAL! FOR  
AN ECHIDNA...

...HE'S ONE  
STRANGE  
DUDE!



FAR AS I  
COULD TELL, HE'S  
NEITHER FOR US  
OR AGAINST US...

...WHICH MAKES  
SECOND-GUESSING  
HIM ALL BUT  
IMPOSSIBLE!

UNTIL HIS  
INTENTIONS ARE  
CLEAR, IT'S BEST  
TO ASSUME THE  
WORST!

ANTOINE! FLY  
SONIC AND TAILS  
OUT IN THE  
TURBO-PROP...



"...AND LET'S GET A CLOSER LOOK!"



LOOK AT  
ZE SIZE  
OF ZAT  
THEENG!

TRÈS  
FANTASTIQUE!

RELAX, 'TWAN!  
YOU'VE SEEN ONE  
ISLAND, YOU'VE  
SEEN 'EM ALL!

FROM HERE,  
IT'S JUST ONE  
BIG BALL OF  
DIRT...



...AND WHERE'S  
THE DANGER IN  
THAT?

K-CHUNG!

WHRR

K-CHUKT!  
K-CHUKT!



NOT WAY  
COOL!

WE'RE  
UNDER  
ATTACK!

PHOOM!

PHOOM!

PHOOM!

ZUT  
ALORS!

I THOUGHT  
YOU SAID ZIS  
ISLAND WAS  
UNARMED!

IT WAS...

...UNTIL  
NOW!

SOMETHING  
NEW HAS BEEN  
ADDED!

HEAVY  
ARTILLERY...

...AND  
ENGINES!

TAKE US  
TOPSIDE 'TWAN!  
LET'S GET TO THE  
BOTTOM OF  
THIS!



ZE GUNS, IT SEEMS, CANNOT  
BE AIMED ABOVE ZE HORIZON!

I WAS  
COUNTING  
ON THAT!

GET  
YOURSELF  
AND THE TURBO  
PROP BACK TO  
BASE...

...WE'RE  
GOIN'  
IN!

GERONIMO!!!

...BEING  
PIGGY-BACKED  
IS BAD FOR MY  
IMAGE!

NEED  
A LIFT,  
SONIC?

NO THANKS,  
PAL...

SO WHAT EXACTLY  
ARE WE LOOKING  
FOR, ANYWAY?

I'M  
NOT  
QUITE  
SURE,  
TAILS!

WE'LL  
KNOW  
WHEN WE  
FIND IT...

WHUUMPH!



...OR WHEN  
IT FINDS  
US!

EVERYONE  
WANTS A PIECE  
OF THE FLOATING  
ISLAND...

...BUT ALL  
THOSE TWO  
ARE GONNA  
GET IS A  
PIECE OF  
THE ROCK!

THEY'RE  
BA-ACK!

I KNEW  
THEY WOULD  
BE SOONER  
OR LATER!

HMMM...

BROBDINGNAGIAN  
FUNGI.

IN  
LAYMAN'S  
TERMS...

...GIANT  
MUSHROOMS!

A WHOLE  
FOREST FULL  
OF 'EM!

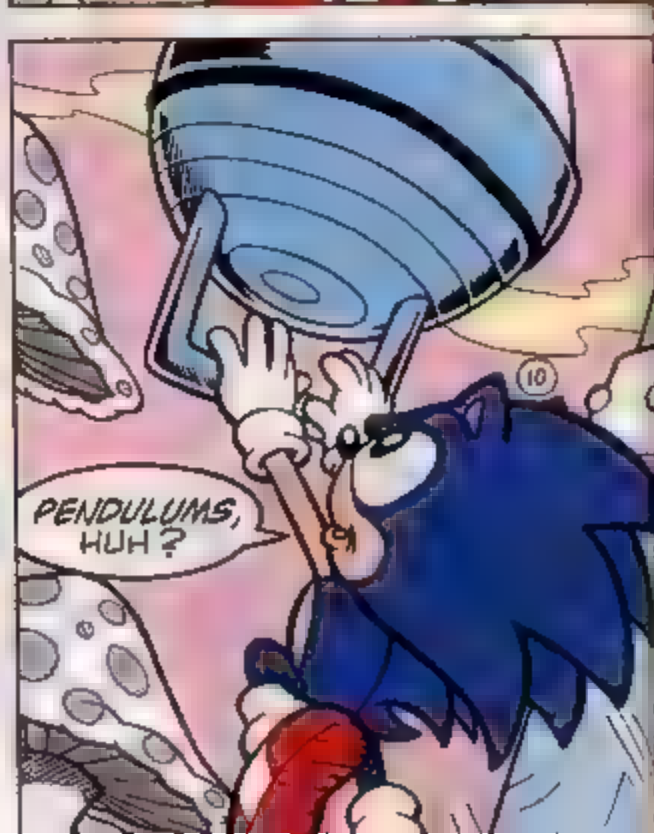
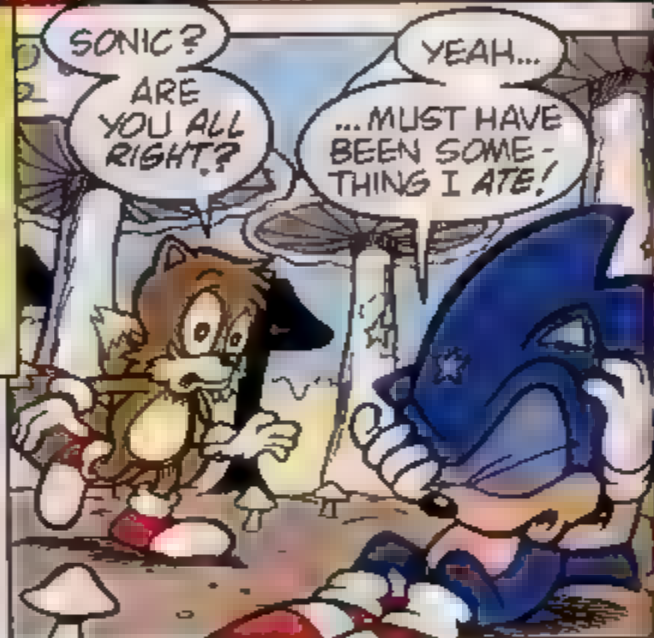
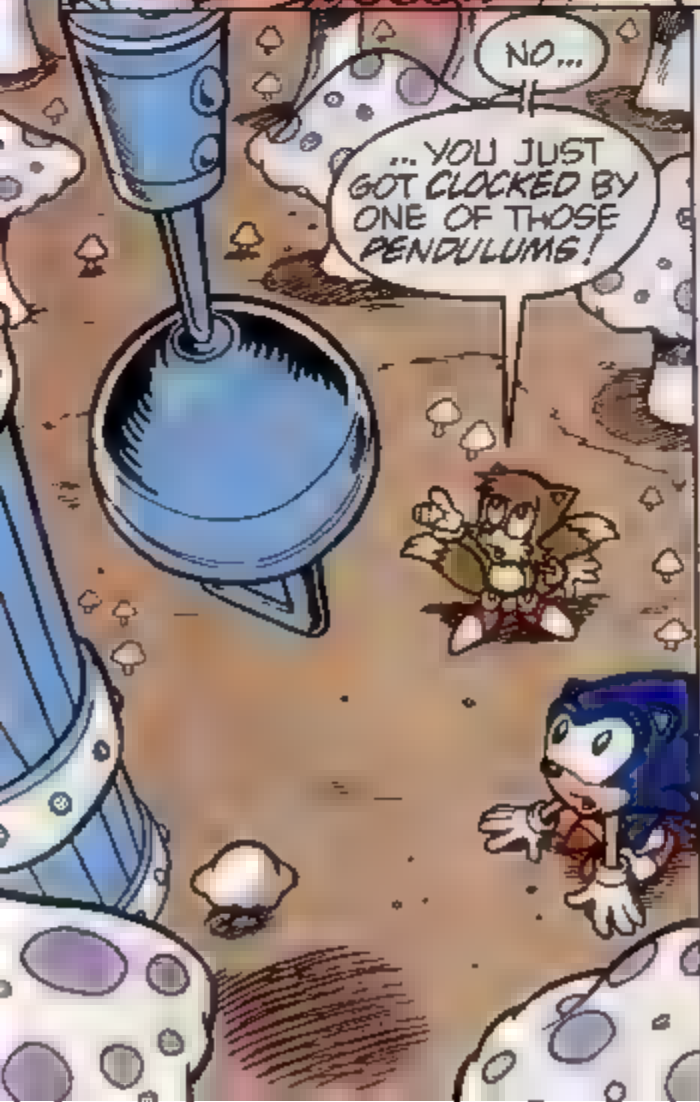
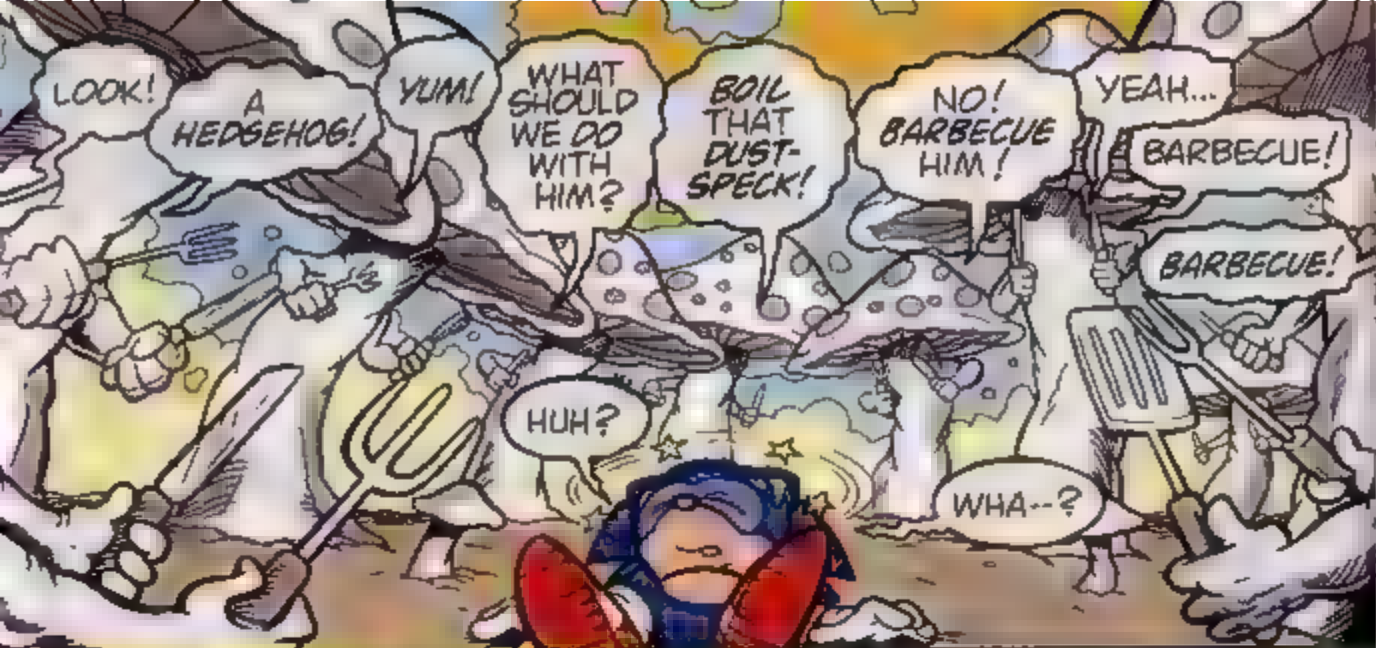
WOW!

SIGH

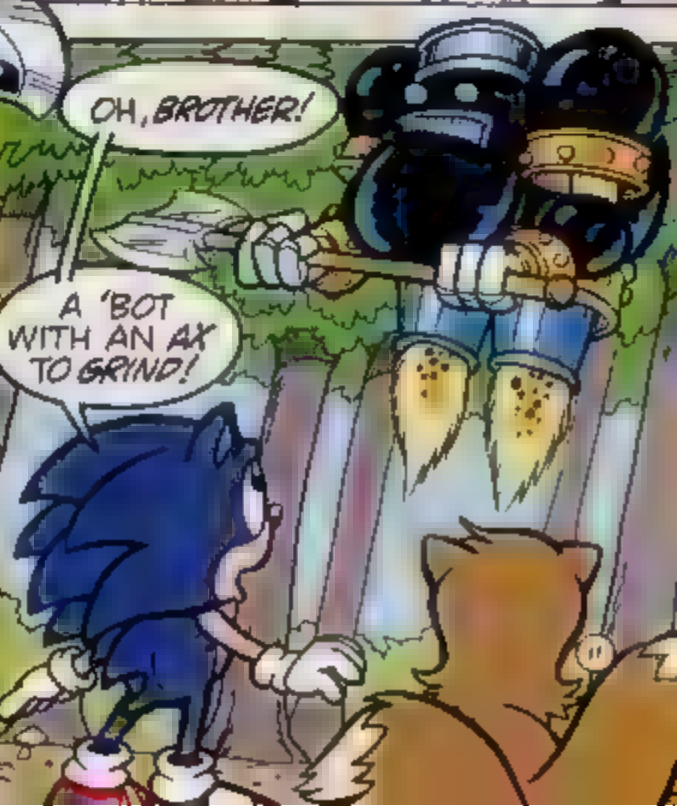
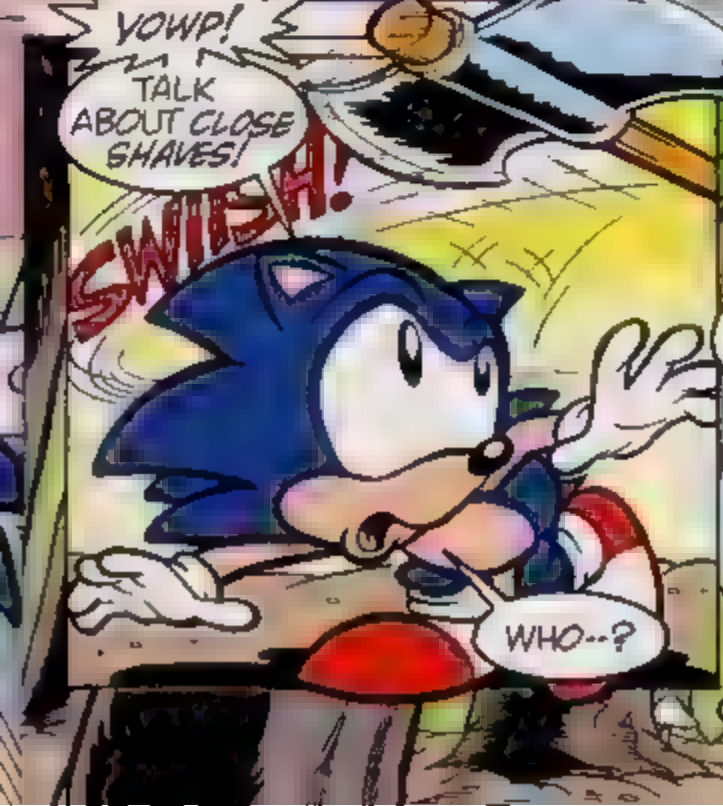
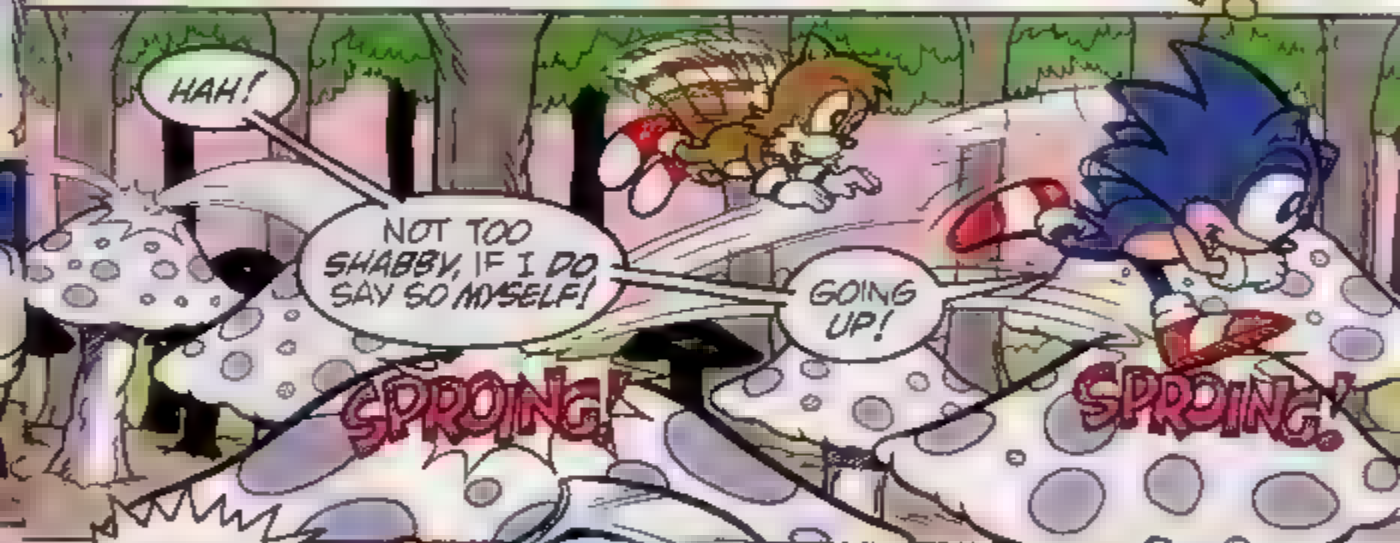
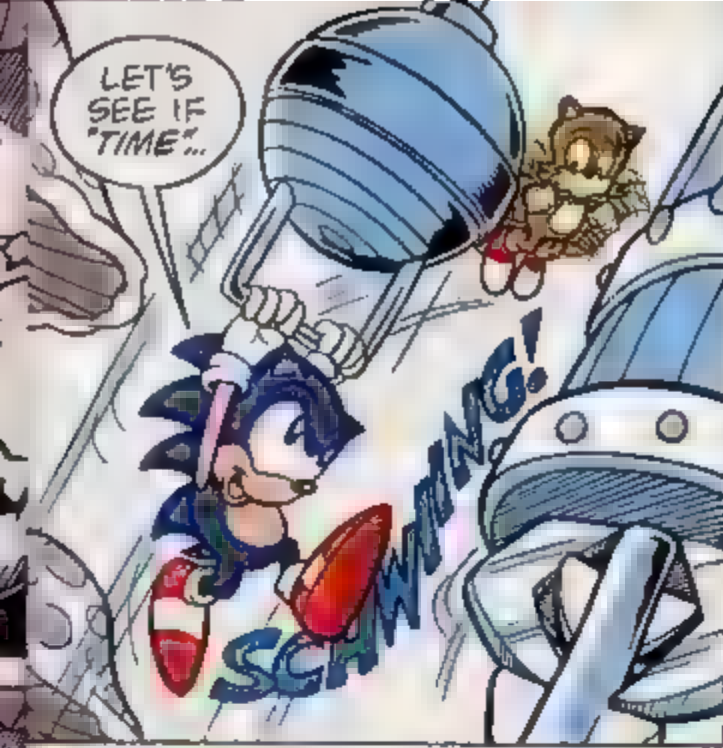
IF ONLY  
WE HAD A  
PIZZA CRUST  
BIG ENOUGH  
FOR--

KLONK!

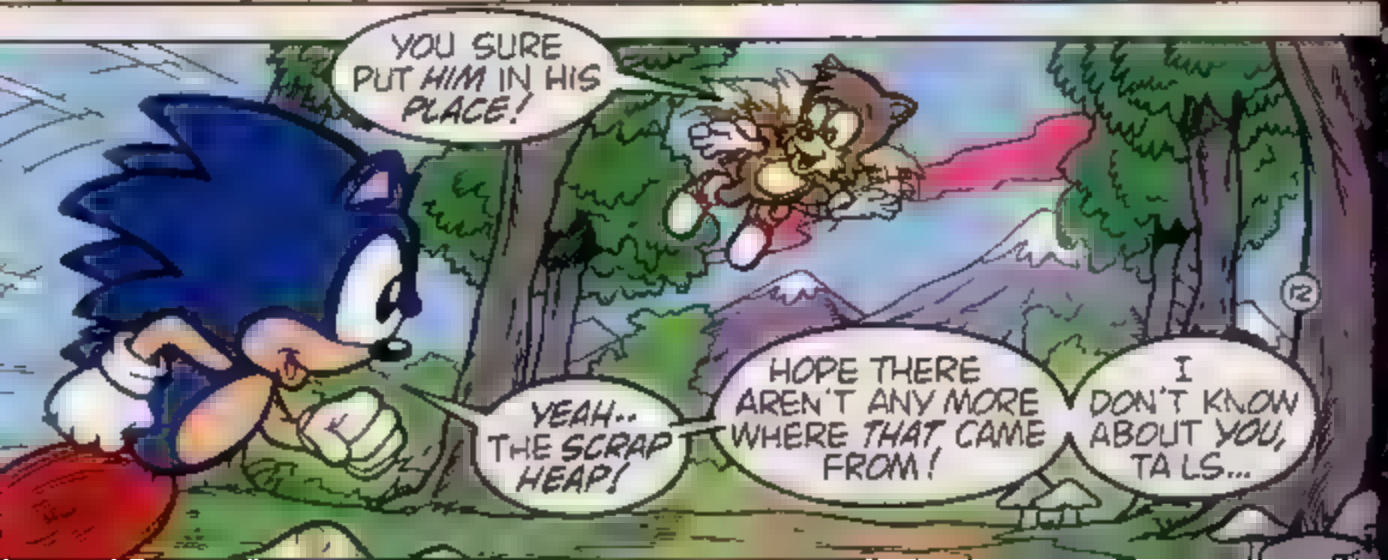
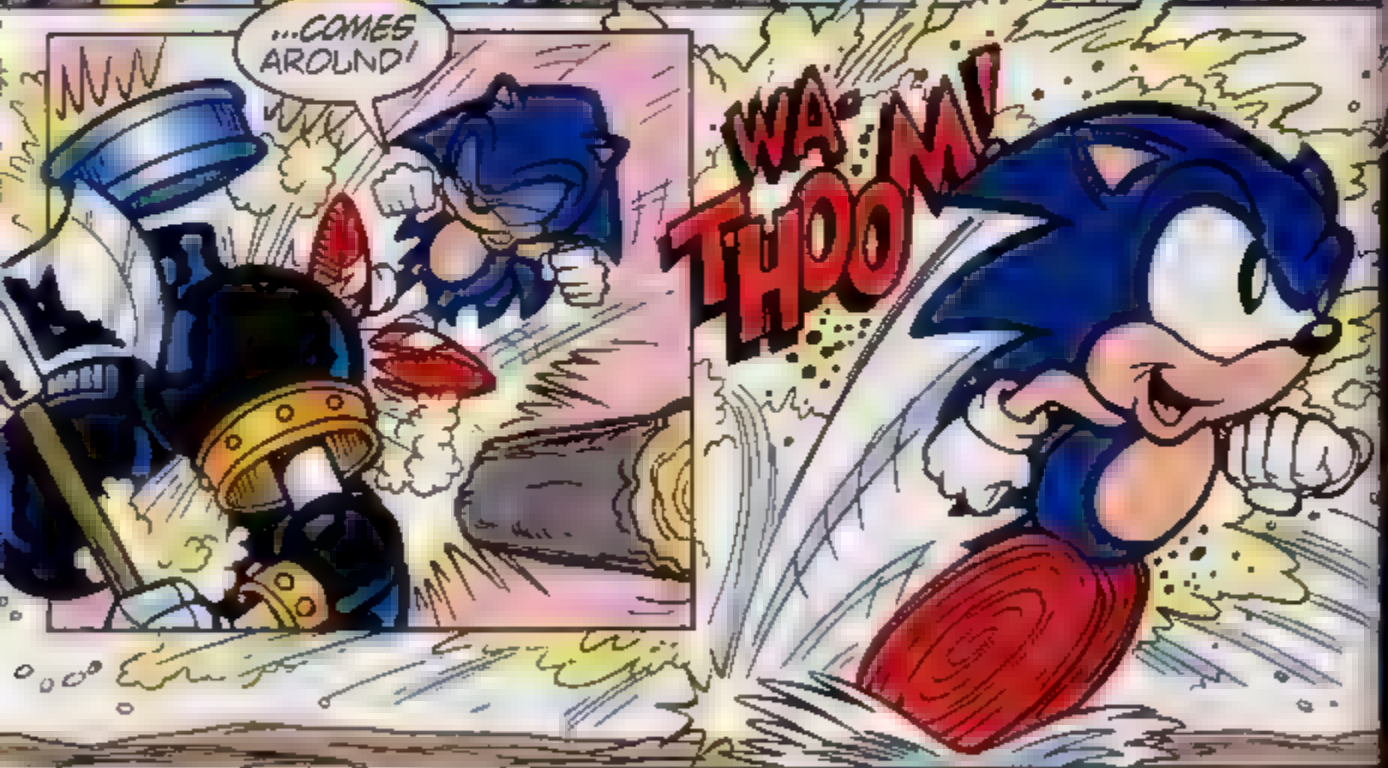
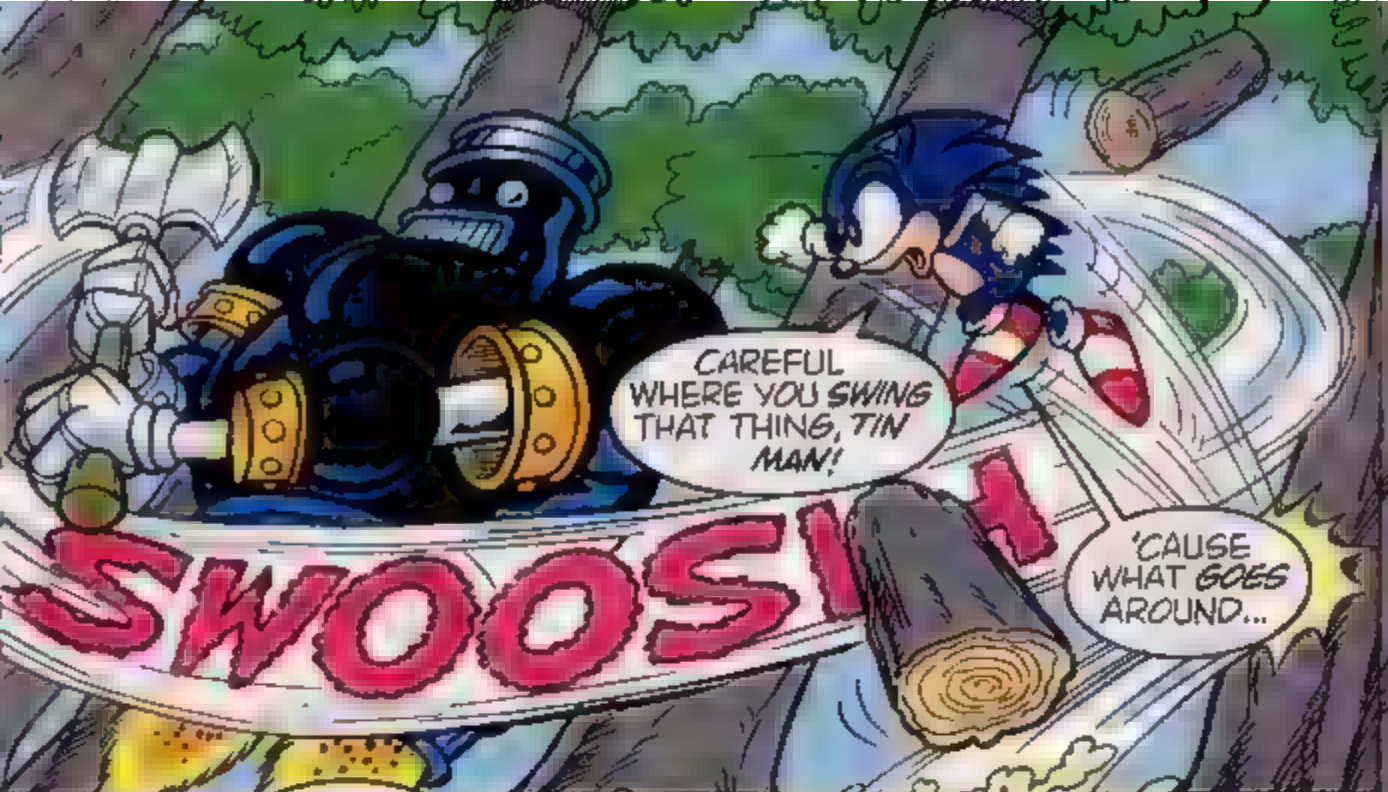














...BUT I'M  
GETTING PRETTY SICK  
OF HAVING THE RUG  
PULLED OUT FROM  
UNDER--

HEY!

FLOOMP!

HAAAY! HA!

ME  
AND MY BIG  
MOUTH!

UHNS!

LUCKY I  
MANAGED  
TO SNAG  
THIS  
LEDGE...

WHUMP!

...OR I  
WOULD'VE BEEN  
IN DEEP, DEEP  
TROUBLE!

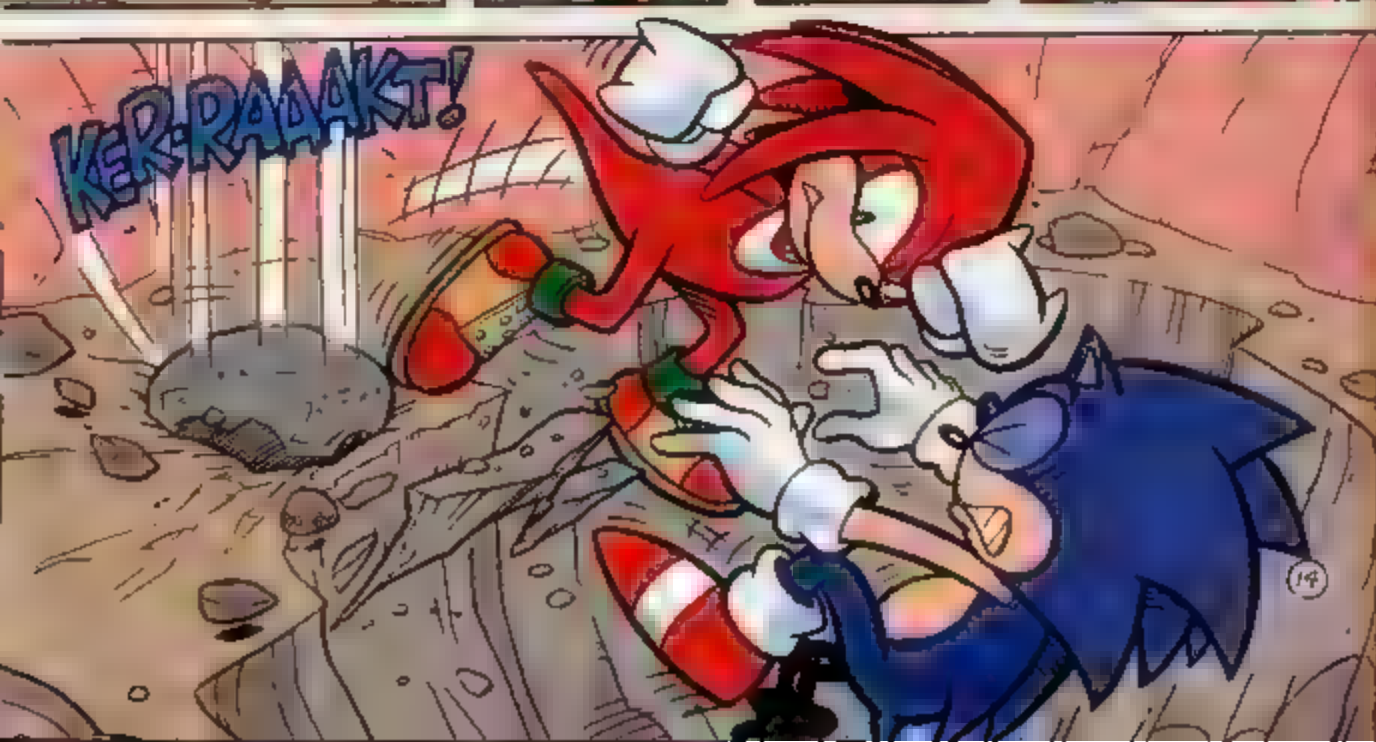
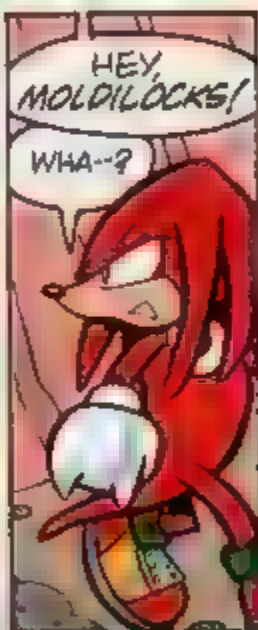
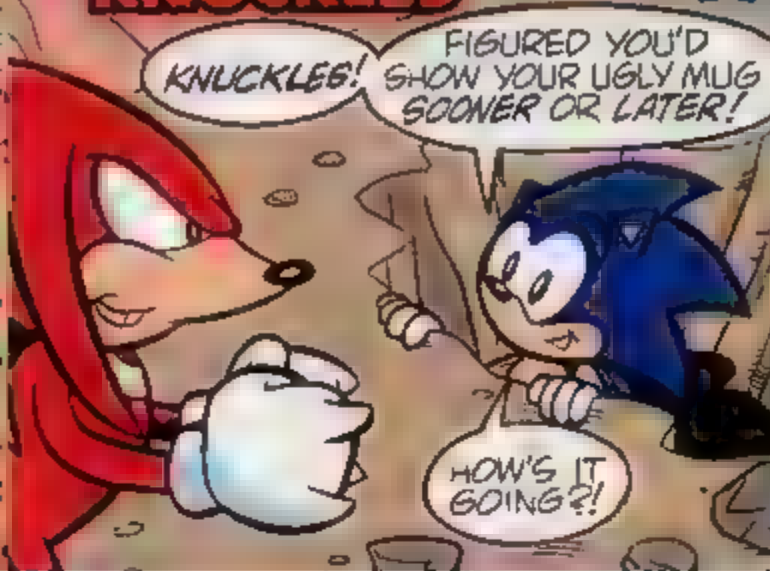
WHO  
SAYS YOU'RE  
NOT?

HI, THERE!

MISS  
ME?

WHO'S THE MYSTERIOUS  
STRANGER? WE'LL GIVE  
YOU ONE GUESS!







WHOOOPS!

SORRY  
ABOUT THAT,  
SONIC!

OOF! WHOSE SIDE IS  
THE LITTLE GUY ON?

THUMP!

MINE...

UHF!

BUMP!

...I  
THINK!

I WAS  
AIMING  
AT HIM!

WHUMP!

THAT'S NICE...

BURBLE! BURBLE! GLOOPY!  
GLEEP!

FSSSSS

THWUMP!

...CAUSE YOU'RE  
GONNA NEED  
ALL THE HELP  
YOU CAN GET!



UH--KNUCKLES? I THINK WE'RE BOTH GONNA NEED SOME HELP!

THIS BLOCK... IS REALLY ROCKIN'!

NOT TO WORRY PEOPLE...

RRRRRUUMMBBLLLLL

SHOOOOOM!

'CAUSE WE ARE OUTTA HERE!

THANKS, PAL!

REMEMBER WHAT I SAID ABOUT BEING "PIGGY-BACKED"?

FORGET IT!

YEAH, THANKS, PAL! I'M PRETTY GOOD AT FLYING AND GLIDING-- BUT I DIDN'T KNOW IF I COULD GET ENOUGH ALTITUDE!

HOWEVER, I STILL HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO PROTECT MY HOME FROM INTRUDERS!

AGREED! BUT WE'RE NOT THE ENEMY!

LOOK! UP IN THE SKY...



...AND YOU'LL  
GET THE BIG  
PICTURE!

IT'S  
FULL OF  
STARS...

...ALL OF  
THEM IN THE  
WRONG  
PLACES!

THAT'S WHAT  
WE'VE BEEN  
TRYING TO  
TELL YOU!

YOUR  
ISLAND...

...HAS BEEN  
HIJACKED!

BY NOW, WE'RE  
OVER KNOTHOLE  
VILLAGE--'COURSE  
IT'S DARK, SO  
NOBODY'D NOTICE!

SOMEONE'S REFITTED  
THE UNDERSIDE OF  
YOUR ISLAND WITH  
ENGINES...AND GUNS!

THAT'S  
WHY WE'RE  
HERE!

D'OH! FOOLED AGAIN!  
THE FLOATING ISLAND  
HAS BEEN TURNED INTO  
A FLYING FORTRESS!

BUT  
WHO..?

WELL, THEY  
WON'T GET  
AWAY WITH  
IT!

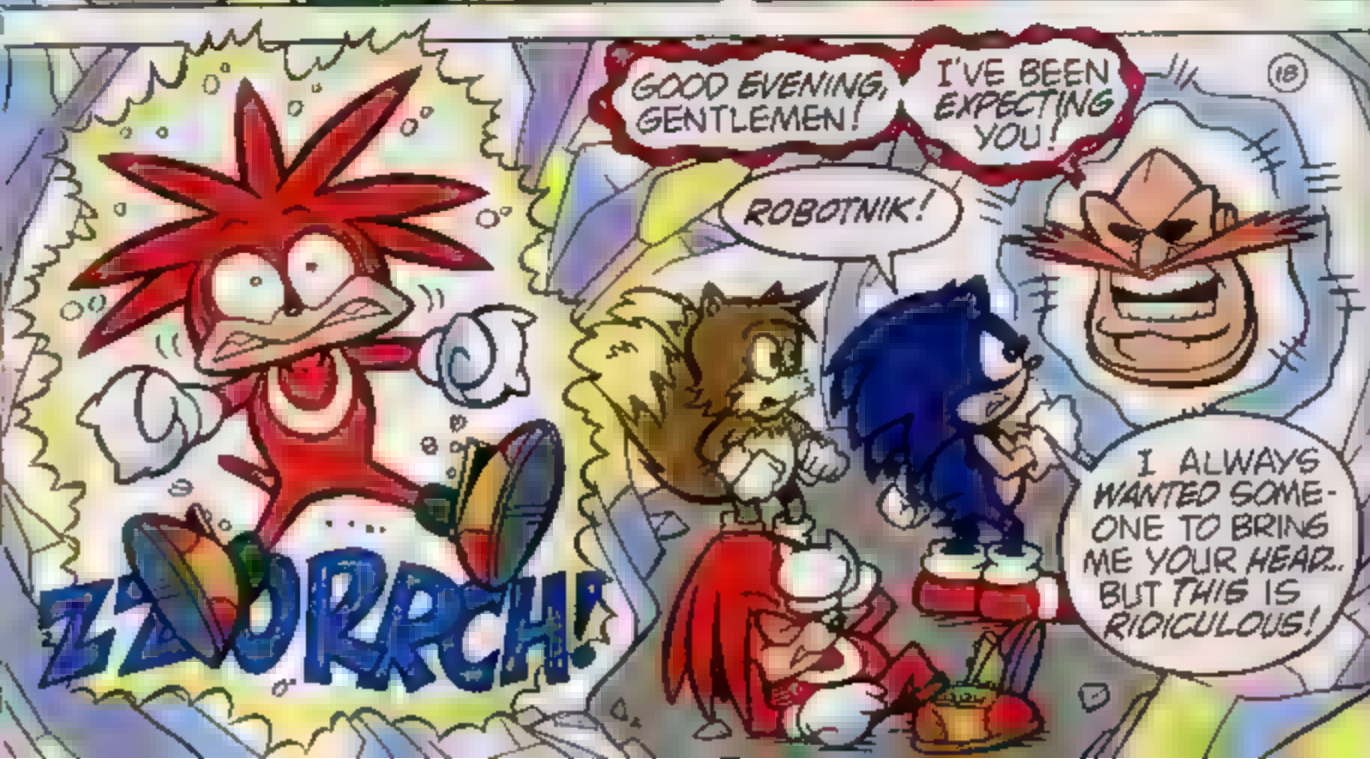
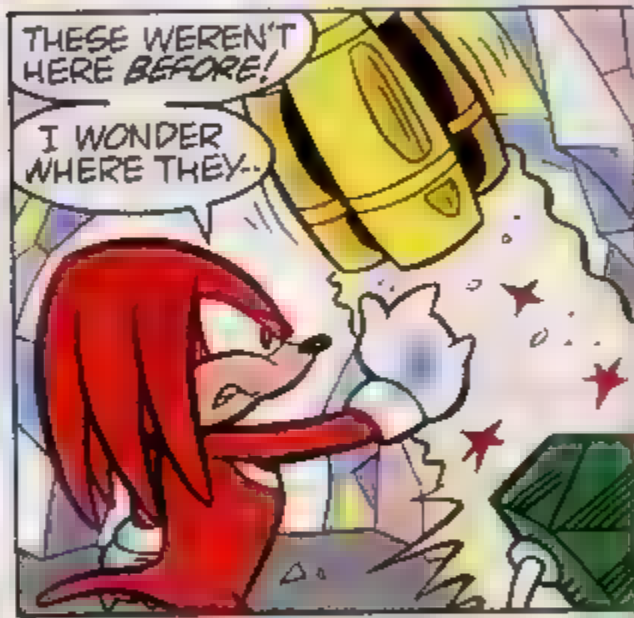
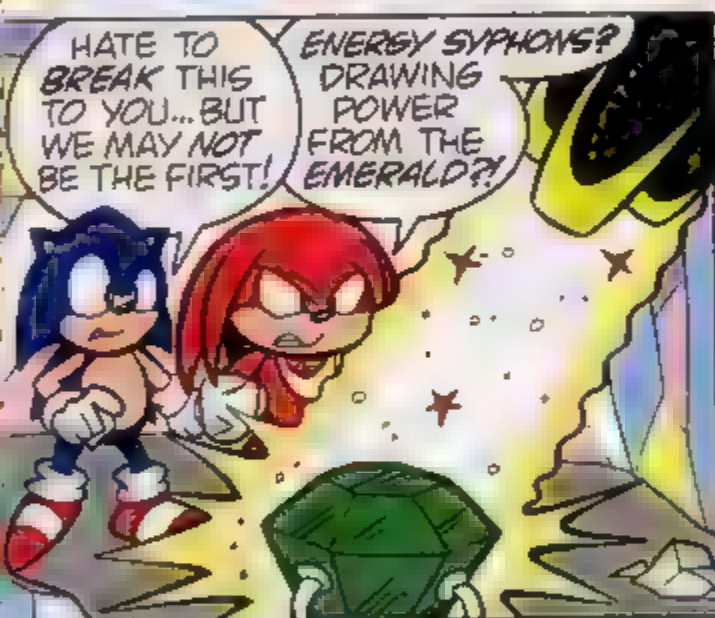
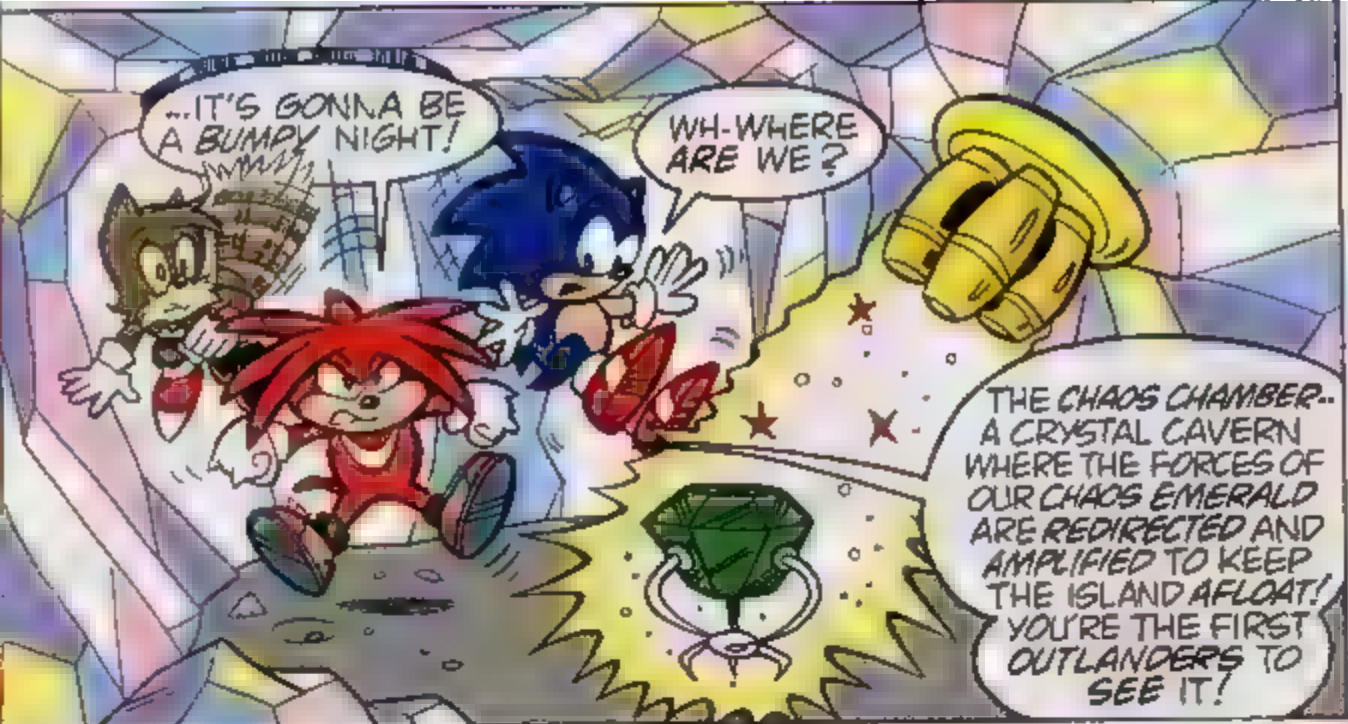
FASTEN  
YOUR SEAT-  
BELTS...

FWIP!

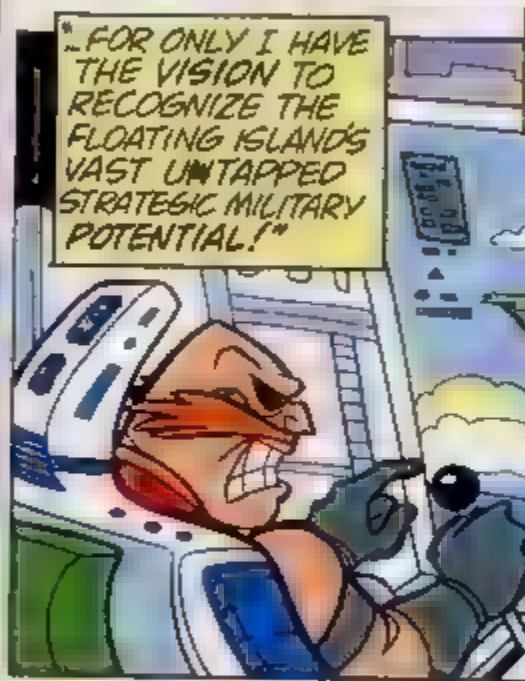
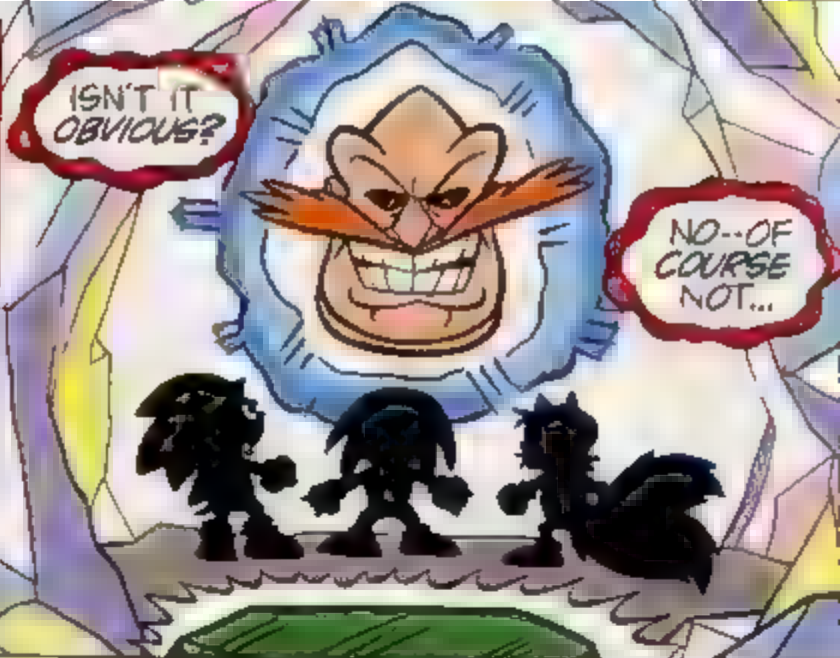
DO NOT  
ENTER  
TO THE  
CHAOS  
CHAMBER  
UNTIL YOU  
ARE  
READY

SWOOSH!!!

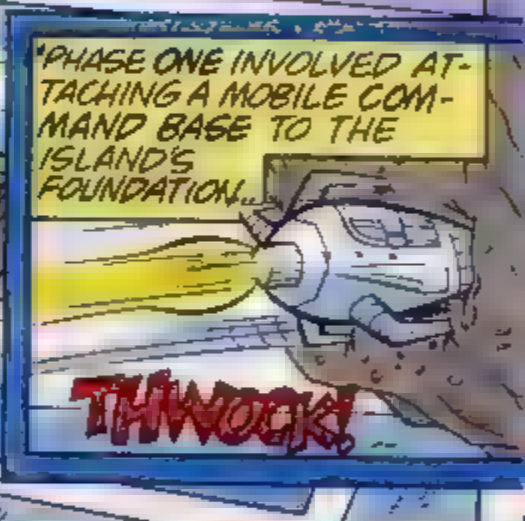








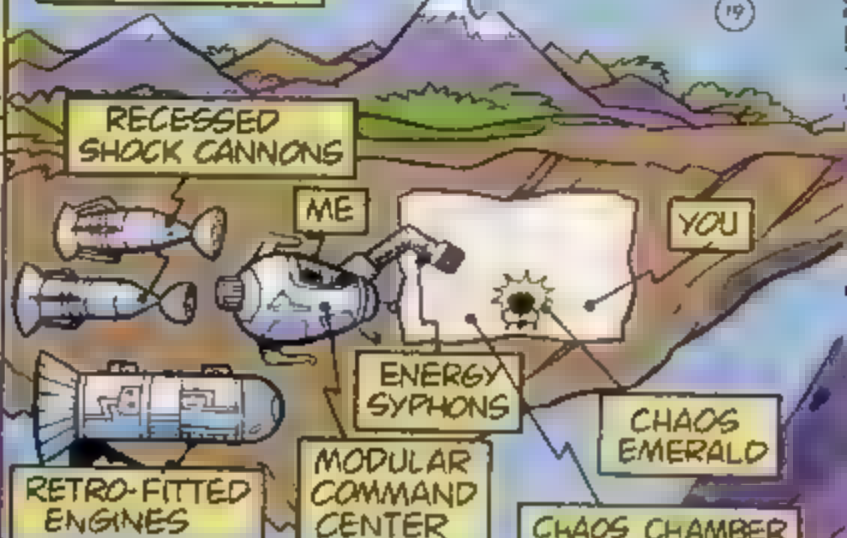
"SINCE DISCOVERING ITS EXISTENCE, LITERALLY HUNDREDS OF HOURS HAVE BEEN DEVOTED TO OPERATION: FLYING DESTROYER!"



"...AND UNLEASHING A SERIES OF PARADROIDS... COMPLEX, AUTOMATED MECHANISMS DESIGNED TO REFASHION ITS SHAPE FROM TROPICAL PARADISE."




"...TO ENGINE OF DESTRUCTION!"











I OWE YOU A DEBT, ECHIDNA! IF YOU HADN'T KEPT THESE TWO OCCUPIED, THEY MIGHT HAVE ARRIVED IN TIME TO SAVE THE DAY--AS ALWAYS!

HE'S RIGHT! I MESSED UP! THIS IS ALL MY FAULT!

AS THE ISLAND'S GUARDIAN, I CAN'T ALLOW IT TO BE USED THIS WAY..

BUT WITH THE ISLAND ALREADY IN POSITION...

...THERE'S NOTHING THEY OR ANYONE ELSE CAN DO TO STOP ME!

...REGARDLESS OF THE PERSONAL COST!

WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

EXACTLY WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE, CHUMP! WHEN IT COMES TO WAR MACHINES, YOU MAY MAKE 'EM...

...BUT I CAN BREAK 'EM!

N-N-N-NOW WHAT?

IT'S SIMPLE, SIMON!

WITHOUT THE CHAOS EMERALD TO KEEP US ALOFT...

SKA-RAAASH!

RRRRUUUUUU

BLLLLL



"...WE'RE  
HEADIN' FOR  
A FALL!"

BUCKET HEAD!  
I REALIZE  
THAT!

WE - WILL -  
BREAK -  
UP - IN -

MASTER -  
WE - ARE -  
FALLING!

NO! -- WE'RE  
BREAKING  
OFF!

**KLIKT!**

THE  
FOOL!

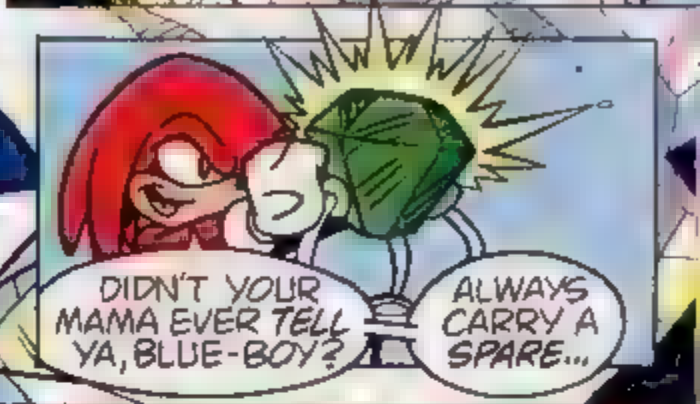
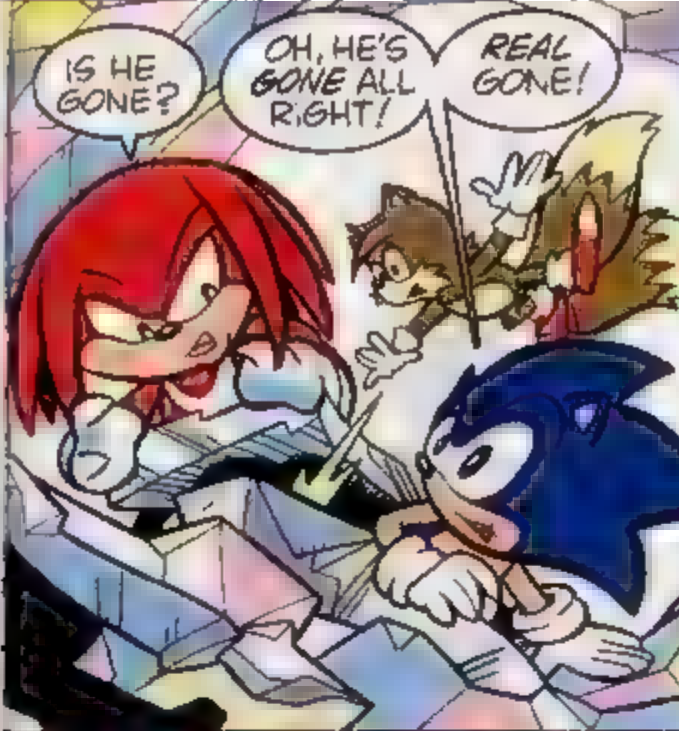
HE FORGOT THEY WERE  
EIGHT MILES HIGH!

NOW KNOTHOLE  
VILLAGE WILL BE  
DESTROYED...

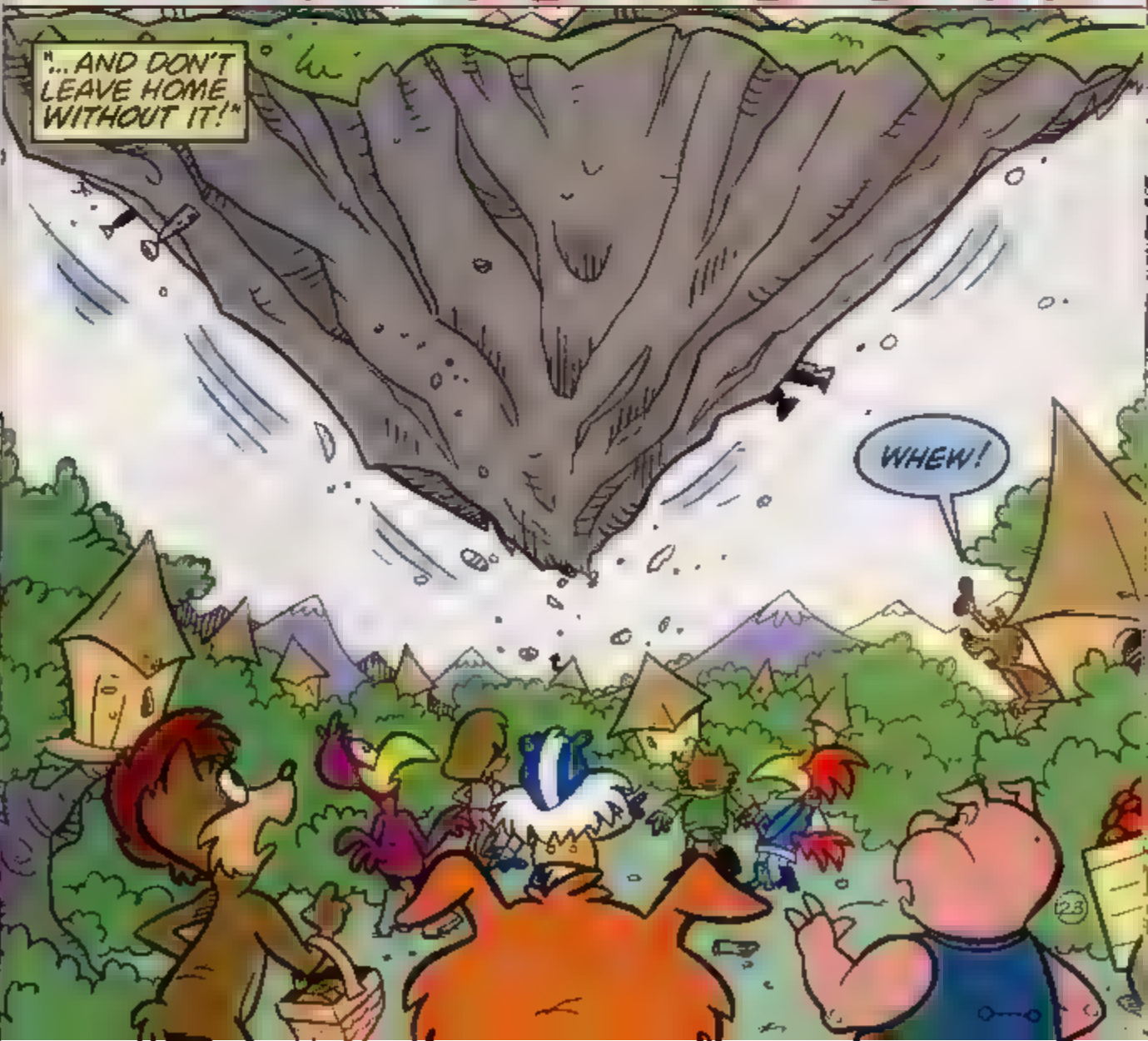
...WITHOUT ME  
HAVING TO FIRE  
A SINGLE SHOT!

**HA HA HA HA HA**





**SKA-REEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE**





LATER...

MAYBE NEXT TIME, I'LL LOOK BEFORE LEADING TO THE WRONG CONCLUSION!

HEY! IT WAS AN HONEST MISTAKE-- AND YOU CAME THROUGH IN THE END!

LUCKY FOR US YOU HAD THAT SPARE CHAOS EMERALD, KNUCKLES!

WHAT SPARE? THAT WAS THE REAL ONE I PUT BACK!

REMOVING IT CAUSED THE ISLAND TO FALL--

--BUT I SMASHED THE FAKE!

I DIDN'T SEE YOU MAKE THE SWITCH!

NEITHER DID ROBOTNIK!

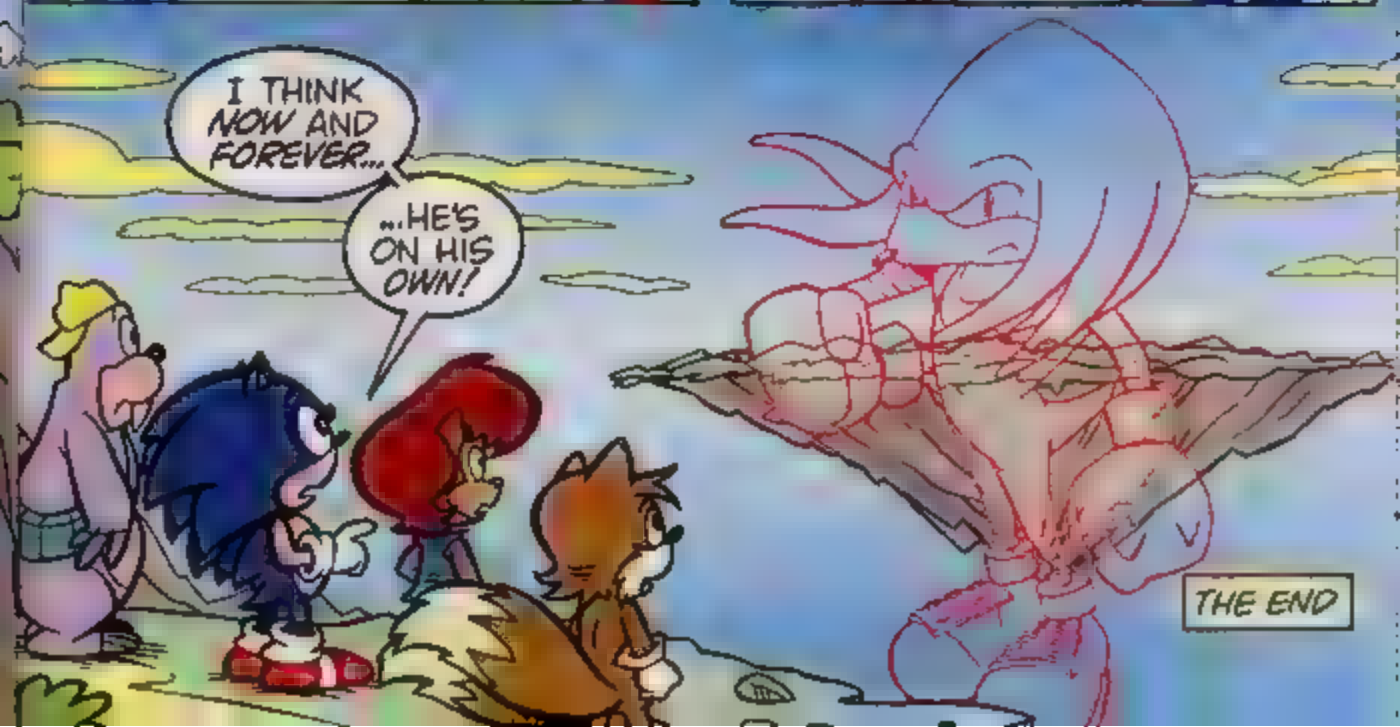
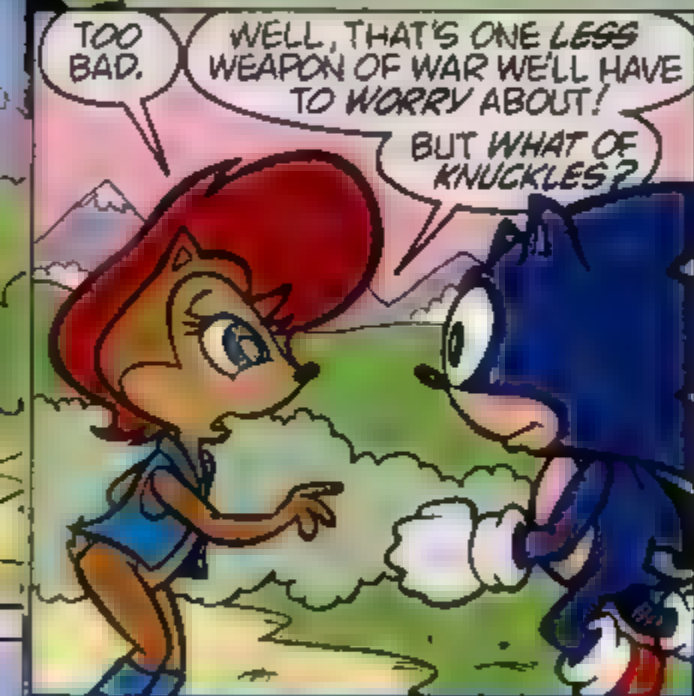
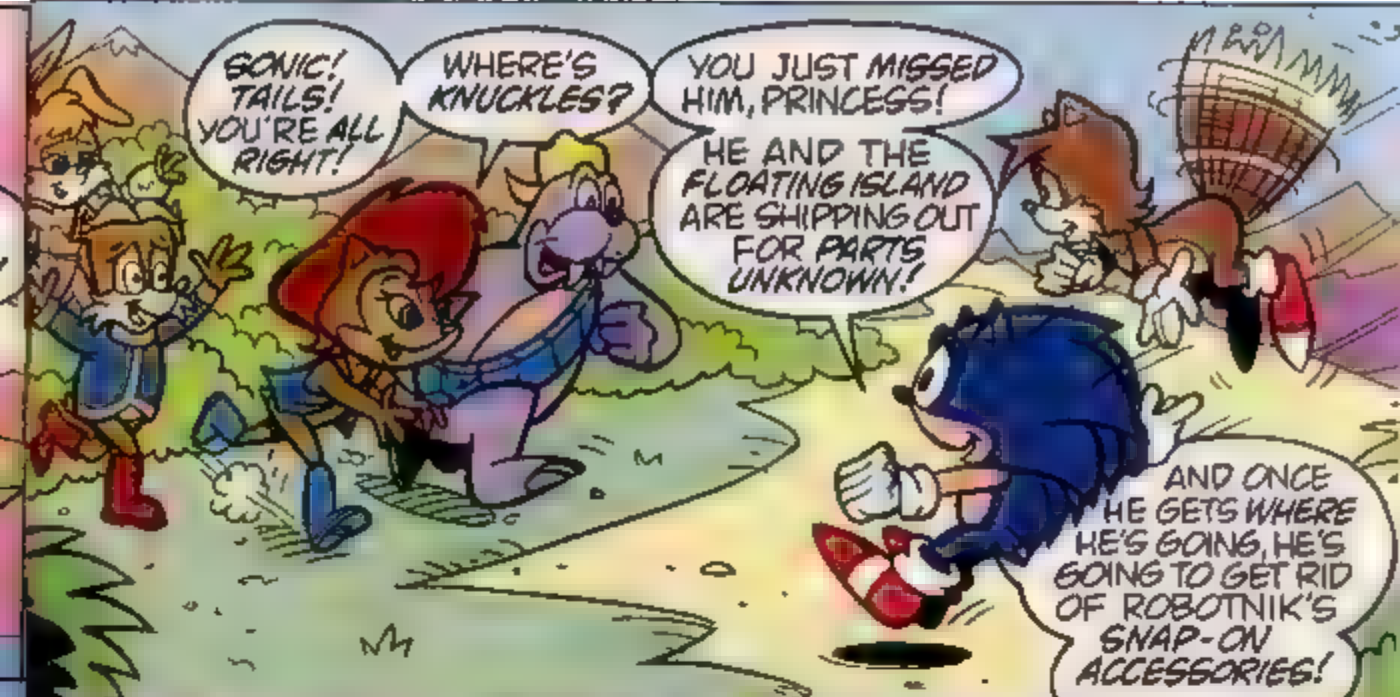
SAY, WHY DON'T YOU PARK YOUR ISLAND HERE AND JOIN US?

NO WAY! I'VE GOT MY OWN PROBLEMS AND RESPONSIBILITIES!

SUIT YOURSELF...

... BUT DON'T BE A STRANGER!







SONIC'S FRIENDLY NEMESIS  
**KNUCKLES**

A QUIET DAY ON  
THE FLOATING ISLAND...

**KA-THOOOM!**

IN

**FIRE  
DRILL**

WHAT WAS THAT?!  
SOME DUDE  
STARTING TROUBLE  
ON MY TURF?

SOUNDS LIKE IT  
CAME FROM  
THE BEACH!

I'D BETTER WING  
IT OVER THERE--  
REAL FAST!

WHA--?

NOBODY'S HERE!  
JUST A CRATER!



WHOEVER IT  
WAS MUST'VE  
TOOK OFF  
OUT OF SIGHT,  
OUT OF MIND--

--HOPING THEY  
WOULDN'T BE  
**SPOTTED** BY  
THE TOP DOG!

...OR I SHOULD SAY--  
**TOP ECHIDNA!**

WELL, IF THIS  
GUY *THINKS*  
HE'S A **GENIUS**--

--HE BETTER  
GO BACK TO  
**PRESCHOOL!**

WHAT A  
**DUMMY!**

GOES AN' LEAVES  
HIS **FOOTPRINTS**  
ALL OVER THE PLACE!

I COULD  
FOLLOW 'IM  
IN MY SLEEP!

A **BLIND** PERSON  
COULD **SEE** THEY  
LEAD RIGHT TO--

**THERE!**

**GOTCHA!!**



HUH?

WHERE'D  
HE GO?

NOBODY-- BUT *NOBODY*-- MAKES  
A FOOL OUT OF *KNUCKLES* THE  
ECHIDNA AND GETS AWAY WITH IT!

SOMEONE  
OR SOMETHING  
--WAS HERE!

THE ONLY PLACE  
THEY COULD GO  
WITHOUT ME  
SEEING HIM--

-- IS IN THE  
RUINS OF THE  
SANDOPOLIS  
ZONE!

BUT TO GET THERE FROM  
HERE MEANS I'M LOOKIN'  
FOR SOMEONE FAST!

SOMEONE  
AWFUL  
FAST!

AND I  
KNOW  
JUST THE  
GUY!

C'MON OUT, SONIC THE  
HEDGEHOG, AND FIGHT ME  
ECHIDNA TO RODENT--

WELL, IF YOU  
WON'T COME TO  
ME, I'M COMIN'  
IN AFTER YOU!

NO MORE  
MISTER NICE  
GUY-- YOU  
GOT THAT?!

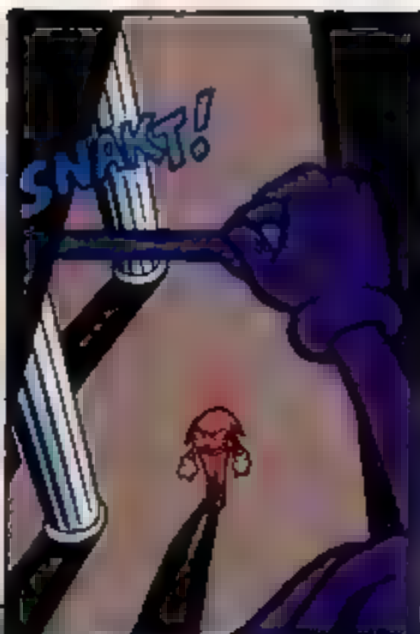
YOU BEING  
SUCH A RAT  
AN' ALL!





AND I'M GOING  
TO MAKE YOU  
PAY FOR  
DRAGGIN' ME  
INTO THE  
DARK!

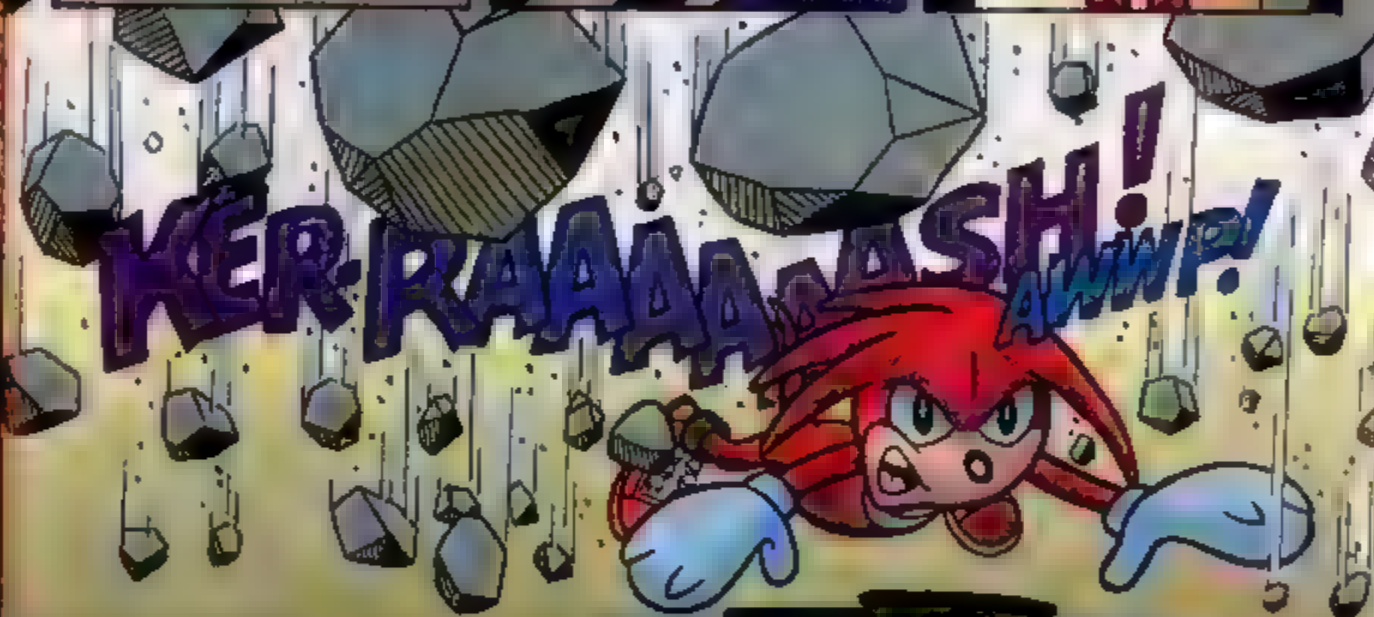
OOOO,  
HOW I  
HATE  
THE DARK!



SNAKT!



HUH?



THAT'S IT!  
THAT'S IT!!!

SO YOU  
WANNA PLAY  
HIDE 'N' SEEK,  
EH?



I GOT A  
BETTER  
GAME--

I CALL IT "A  
FISTFUL OF  
KNUCKLES"!

SO IF YOU  
KNOW  
WHAT'S  
GOOD FOR  
YOU--



--YOU'LL DO THIS EASY OR  
I'LL **REALLY** BRING THE  
HOUSE DOWN ON YOU!

YOU CAN'T  
**HIDE** FROM ME  
FOR LONG!

DON'T YOU  
KNOW--

--I'M THE **GUARDIAN**  
OF THIS ISLAND?!

YOU **CAN'T** MESS  
AROUND WHILE I'M  
ON WATCH!

WHERE'D THAT  
COME FROM?!

SOMETHIN'  
FUNNY'S GOIN'  
ON HERE!!

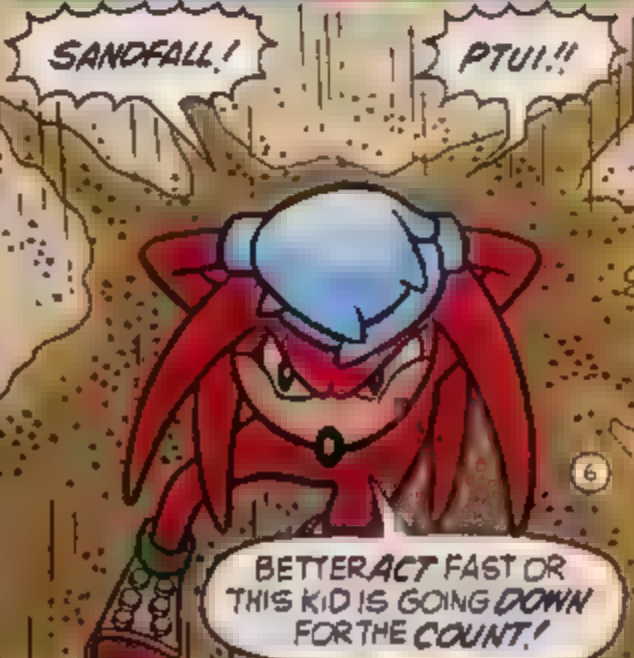
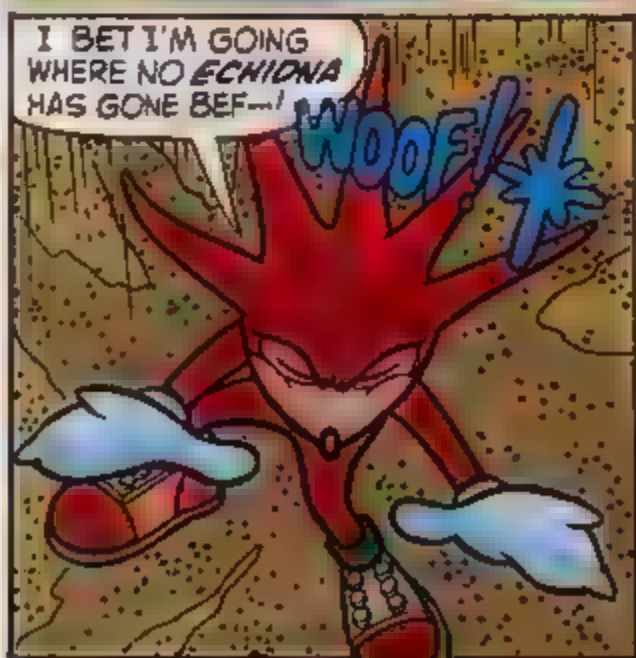
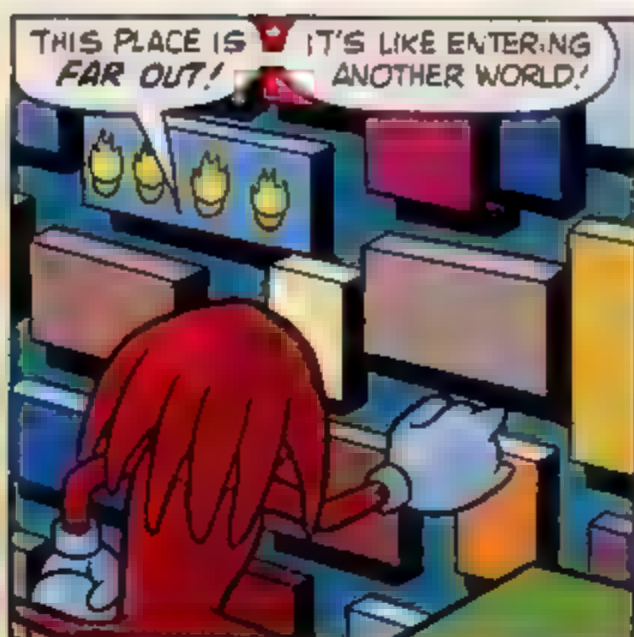
WELL,  
ISN'T **THIS**  
SPECIAL!

THE **WALL**  
REVEALS IT'S  
A **DOOR**!

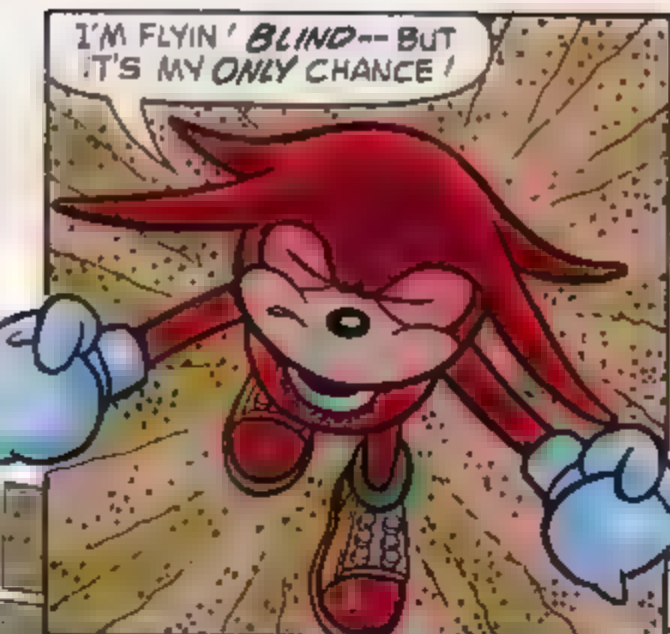
THE  
PROBLEM IS--  
HOW COME  
I'M **NOT**  
LAUGHIN'?

SINCE THERE'S  
**NO WAY ANYONE**  
COULD'VE GOTTEN  
**PAST ME--**









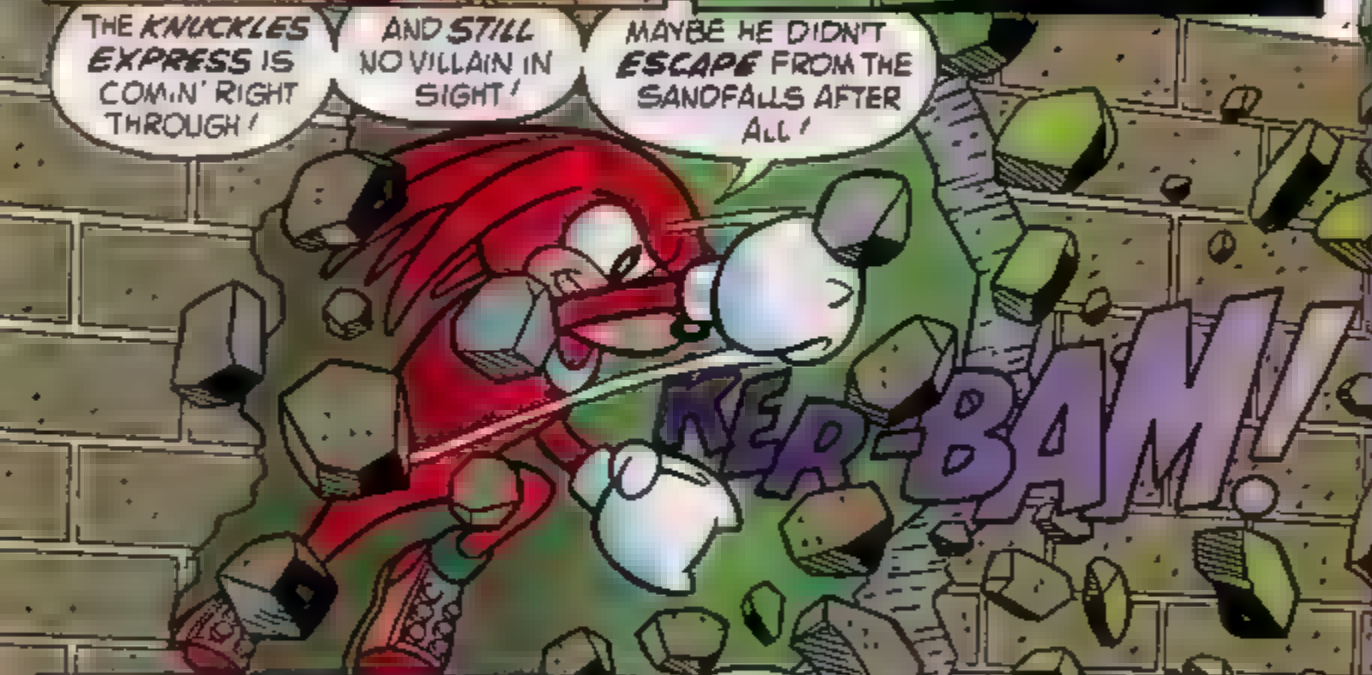
I'M FLYIN' *BLIND*-- BUT  
IT'S MY ONLY CHANCE!



I DID  
IT!

DIDN'T  
GET ME FAR  
THOUGH!

ANOTHER  
WALL!

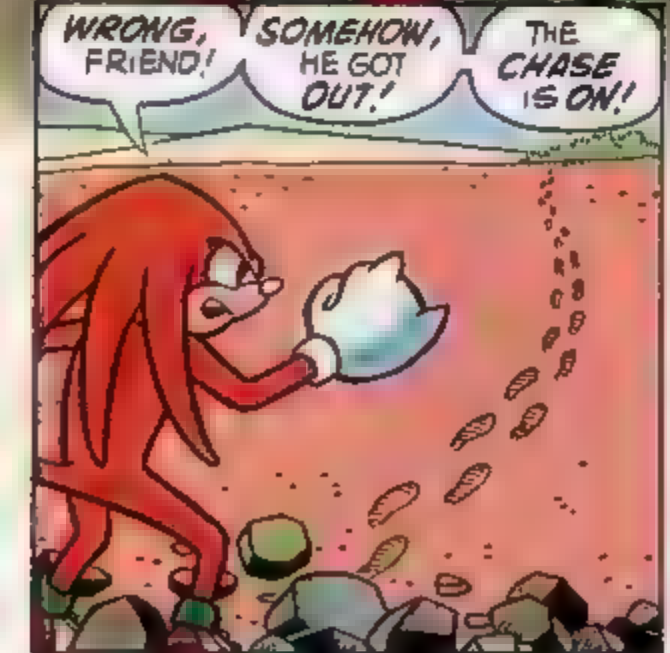


THE *KNUCKLES  
EXPRESS* IS  
COMIN' RIGHT  
THROUGH!

AND *STILL*  
NO VILLAIN IN  
SIGHT!

MAYBE HE DIDN'T  
*ESCAPE* FROM THE  
SANDFALLS AFTER  
ALL!

**KER-BAM!**



WRONG,  
FRIEND!

SOMEHOW,  
HE GOT  
OUT!

THE  
*CHASE*  
IS ON!



ONLY  
NOW--

IT'S  
*PERSONAL!*

I'M GOING  
TO GET  
YOU!



I **STILL**  
THINK IT'S  
THAT CREEP  
**SONIC!**

I CAN'T THINK OF  
ANYONE **ELSE**  
THIS **FAST** OR  
**LUCKY!**

IT'S GOT TO  
BE **SONIC**  
MESSING  
AROUND!

THE TRAIL  
**LEADS** TO THE  
ISLAND'S **EDGE!**

-- EXCEPT  
FOR YOURS  
**TRULY!**

NOWHERE ELSE TO  
GO, BUT **DOWN!**

GOOD  
**RIDDANCE!**

JUST WAIT I'LL  
**NEXT TIME,**  
MISTER  
HEDGEHOG--

-- I'LL BE THE  
**ONE** WITH THE  
**SURPRISES!**

NOT  
QUITE, MY  
BOY...

THIS WAS  
ONLY YOUR **FIRST**  
**LESSON** AND I CAN  
SEE ALREADY YOU  
HAVE A **LOT** TO  
LEARN!

**CLASS** IS  
NOW IN  
**SESSION...**

THIS ISN'T **THE END**, DEAR READER! BOTH YOU AND KNUCKLES  
HAVE PLENTY OF SURPRISES IN STORE AT THE HANDS OF OUR MYSTE-  
RIOUS FRIEND! FIND OUT MORE IN **UPCOMING ISSUES!**



SONIC'S FRIENDLY NEMESIS  
**KNUCKLES**

IN

LAND OF THE  
FLOATING ISLAND

THE WINDS  
ARE REALLY  
HOWLING  
TODAY!

ALL OF A SUDDEN,  
I'M FLYING THE  
NOT-SO-FRIENDLY  
SKIES!

LOOKS LIKE  
THE WINDS  
AREN'T ALL  
THAT'S RILED!

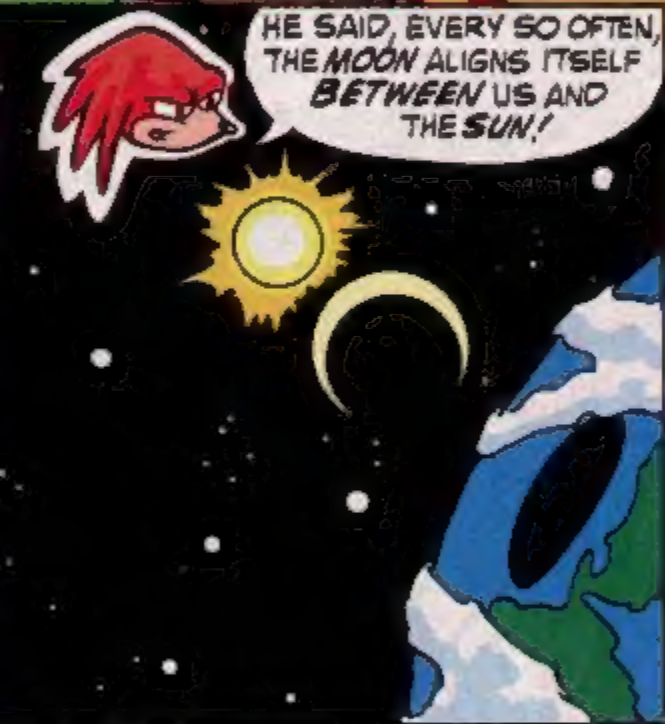
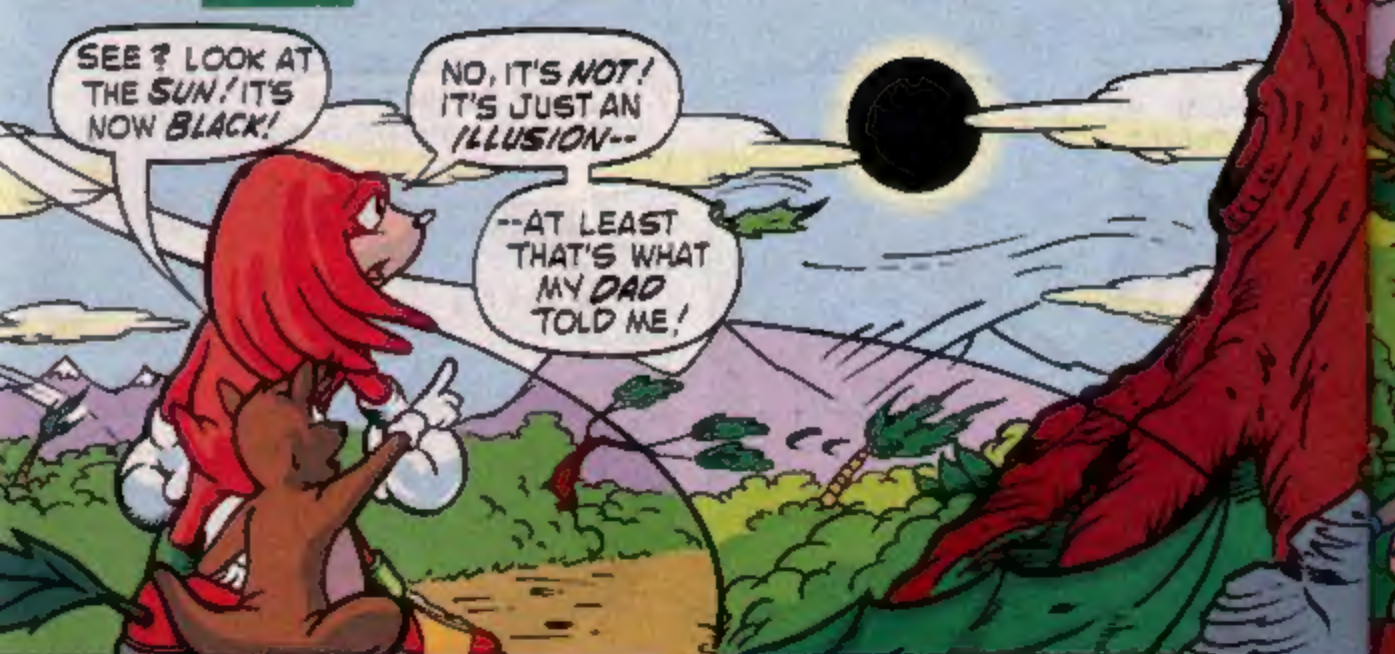
THERE'S A BABY  
KANGA LOOKING  
FOR ITS MOM,  
I BET!

HOLD ON, KID!  
KNUCKLES IS COMING  
TO HELP OUT!











AREN'T THEY  
FRIENDLY?

USUALLY, BUT  
THE WEATHER'S  
UPSETTING THEM!

AND THERE  
THEY GO!

GO  
WHERE?

WHEREVER!  
BUT THEY  
CAN ONLY GO  
SO FAR ON  
THE FLOATING  
ISLAND!

DO YOU THINK  
MY MOMMA'S  
OKAY?

OH SURE! THERE *HASN'T*  
BEEN ANYTHING TO WORRY  
ABOUT ON THE FLOATING  
ISLAND FOR A  
LONG TIME!

IT'S A  
PARADISE  
THAT WE CALL  
HOME!

HOWEVER, WE SEEM TO  
KEEP GETTING  
VISITORS  
WHO'D LIKE TO  
CHANGE THAT!

THE WIND'S  
STRONGER!  
I'M SCARED!

HANG ON  
TO ME!



